[*Translation*]

Indo–US Sub–Commission on Education and Culture

1515. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a workshop of Indo–USA Sub-Commission on Education and Culture was organised in January, 1992;

(b) if so, the details of the deliberations conducted in the workshop; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c). An Indo–American Writer's Workshop was organized in New Delhi and Bombay, Jan. 6–16, 1992 by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in collaboration with the Sahitya Akademi. Simultaneously, an Indo–American Music Workshop was also organized in these cities. The Workshops were held under the auspices of the Indo–US– Sub–Commission on Education and Culture. It provided a forum to the writers & musicians for interaction and exchange of ideas. It was part of an ongoing programme under the Indo–US Sub-Commission on Education & Culture. The exchange of views therefore was not between the two Governments.

[*English*]

Fertilizer Subsidy

1516. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:
SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest estimate of the fertilisers subsidy during the current financial year and the amount released upto January, 31, 1992.

(b) the proportion of the total supply of fertilizers during the year which has been or is likely to be subsidised;

(c) the number of likely beneficiaries and the total acreage covered by the subsidy;

(d) whether there has been any rise in the retail price of the fertilizers during the last year, if so, the price thereof on January 1, 1991 and January, 1, 1992; and

(e) whether it has been possible to identify the small and marginal farmers who are entitled to supply of subsidised fertilisers under the current scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A provision of Rs. 4800 crore has been made during 1991–92 for fertilizer subsidy. The amount released upto 31st January, 1992, is about Rs. 3654 crore. Under the scheme on Fertiliser subsidy for small and marginal farmers, an amount of Rs. 155 crore has been released upto 31st January against the provision of Rs. 405 crore during 1991–92.

(b) Barring fertilisers like Ammonium Sulphate, Calcium Ammoniam Nitrate, Ammoniam Chloride and Sulphate of Potash which were decontrolled w.e.f. 25.7.91, all other fertilisers were subsidised during the current year. An amount of Rs. 405.00 crore was provided during 91–92 as fertiliser subsidy for the small and magical farmers to offset the increase in fertiliser prices during the current year.